acquired maturity and substance and there has been considerable enhancement of bilateral trade and economic cooperation. The Chinese President Jiang Zemin visited India last year. A significant outcome of this visit has been the signing of an agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas.

With regard to Bangladesh, an Indo-Bangladesh Treaty on Sharing of Ganga Waters was signed on December 12, 1996 which provides a detailed formula for sharing of the water flow during the lean season and more specifically between March 1 and May 10. The Treaty is for 30 years but with provision for mandatory reviews after five year intervals. Either side can also call for a review after two years.

Indo-US relations have expanded remarkably over the last few years. Economic reforms in India have provided a further fillip to this process. Trade and investments are now a cornerstone of revitalised Indo-US relationship. It is Government's endeavour to continue to further improve and strengthen friendly relations and mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation with the United States. Government will also take the initiative in establishing early high level contacts with the key figures of new administration team. India's relations with the Russian Federation continue to be characterised by friendship and cooperation based on trust and confidence. Indo-Russian relations are multifaceted and encompass different sectors. Efforts are consistently being made to further strengthen the close and friendly relations between the two countries and to imbue them with new content. With the above in mind, the tradition of intensive high level exchanges between our two countries has been further built upon since the installation of the United Front Government. I visited Moscow to co-chair the third session of the Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural cooperation, which comprehensively reviewed Indo-Russian cooperation in the trade, economic and other fields and ironed out pending issues in areas under its jurisdiction.

The liberalisation of economy has opened up a vast range of possibilities and has offered new forms of beneficial association with countries abroad. In this context, endeavour is to ensure projection of India's economic potential and capacity in a manner, where the necessary external contributions to Indian economy will continue, safeguarding the socio-economic well being of the people and improvement in their quality of life.

Prime Minister visited Bangladesh and Mauritius on bilateral visits. During his visits to Harare, Rome and Davos to attend the G-15 Summit, World Food Summit and the annual meeting of World Economic Forum, he held wide ranging discussions with several world leaders. Prime Minister's visits have helped to enhance the level and content of India's relations with these countries. Several agreements for cooperation were signed during these high level visits.

**Conference by Central Council for Health and Family Welfare**

*33. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Council for Health and Family Welfare had organised three day conference in Delhi in the month of October,. 1995; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations and observations made at the conference regarding implementation of family welfare plans, targets achieved and those to be achieved by the turn of the 20th Century ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the main Resolutions pertaining to the Family Welfare Programme, the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare complimented the States/Union Territories which had achieved the goals of 2000 A.D. and those which were close to the goals. The States lagging behind, were urged to give high priority to the Family Welfare Programme. The CCH&FW also endorsed the initiatives of the Government of India to replace quantitative targets by qualitative indicators.

*[Translation]*

**Non Functioning of Important Equipments**

*34. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether equipments for operation, X-ray and other medical check ups like radio-therapy machines are not functioning in Safdarjung, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, Loknayak Jai Prakash Narayan and other Government hospitals in Delhi ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether people have lost faith in the Government hospitals due to the negligence of the administration in the hospitals; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to take action against the guilty persons after conducting high level enquiry into the entire matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Most of the diagnostic and radiology/radio-therapy equipments and those required for conducting operations are functioning in the Central Government Hospitals. Govt. of NCT of Delhi have reported